

# NEWS from the Libraries at Trinity College

# **Director's Column**

### Dr. Richard S. Ross, College Librarian

Each year I take this opportunity to welcome new students to Trinity and welcome back our returning students and faculty! As you read our newsletter, you will see that this past summer library staff have been very active in developing new and exciting programs and made changes that we believe will improve our overall services.

#### Student Programs

To begin with, I would like to thank Research Education Librarian Erin Valentino, the librarians who assisted her, and the First Year mentors who gave guided tours to almost the entire First Year class on Sunday, September 11, 2011. Secondly, I want to mention two new programs for students that the Library is starting this fall. The Research Associates Program integrates paid peer mentoring into our services. Students accepted into the program will develop their research skills and learn to assist their fellow students in locating, evaluating and using information.

The Watkinson Fellowship is an initiative of the Watkinson Library. Established to create support for self-directed students to explore the Watkinson's special collections, it comes with a \$1,500 stipend. Both programs are new to the Trinity College Library and are only available to Trinity students. I am also pleased to report that starting this year we have raised the profile of the "Webster Book Prize" for student book collectors, increasing the amount of the prize and its visibility, with the winner able to enter a national book collector's contest.

> Change in Services After careful analysis of statis-

# A Case for the Audubon Birds

by Richard Ring, Head Librarian for Special Collections

**Trinity** College

The Watkinson Library is happy to announce the completion of a new, permanent exhibit of our copy of John James Audubon's *Birds of America*, one of the most sought after and highly-acclaimed printed books in the world. We are turning one page per



The Watkinson's new exhibit case and mural.

week (every Monday), so we invite the campus to stop by between classes or on their lunch breaks and see the new bird. Since there are 435 plates in four volumes, it will take us over eight years to get to the end!

The idea began last year, when I thought we should give more attention to this amazing pinnacle of nineteenth-century art and science. We ordered a case (custombuilt out of U-V screened glass and steel) from Germany. We cleared a space in the reading room, worked with a designer to create a succinct description of Audubon's achievement to be mounted on the wall, and installed a floor made of red oak to ensure that the case was properly situated.

One of the first things I learned upon starting at the Watkinson was that our copy of the *Birds of America*, given to Trinity by one of its early graduates in 1900 (Dr. Gurdon Russell, Class of 1834), was that it was incomplete. Unfortunately, well before the current security measures were put in place, a professional thief had stolen two plates from the book in 1977. One plate (no. 430, the Slender-billed Guillemot) was recovered from a Boston bookseller within a year of the theft—the man also stole from the Connecticut State Library, the Boston Public Library, the Peabody Institute, and the New Bedford Public Library in Massachusetts. The other plate (no. 431, the American Flamingo), was never recovered. Fortunately, we were able to secure a copy of this plate (from another set) at auction on September 28, so after 35 years, our set is complete again.

Please mark your calendars! We will formally open this exhibit and celebrate our new acquisition on Thursday, November 3, at 5:00 p.m. in the Joslin Family 1823 Room. Dr. Christoph Irmscher from Indiana University will give a lecture on "How to Read Audubon," and we will hold a reception afterwards. Dr. Irmscher edited the Library of America edition of Audubon's works, and writes on nineteenth-century North American literature, early American nature writing, and eco-criticism.

### Director's Column... continued from page 1

tics gathered over two years and with input from all library units, we have created a new service desk to be more visible, welcoming, and better placed for answering general questions upon entering the Library. You will notice a new sign: Start Here, and next to it a desk that will be staffed most of the hours the Library is open. In addition, research librarians will be available on-call the same hours as before, and all research related questions will be referred to them either directly or by scheduling an appointment.

Last winter, the Music and Media operations were transferred to the Access Services Department. Low usage rates in the late evening, options of playing content on nearly any computer in the building, and the growing move toward online streaming, led to the decision to circulate media course reserves and group viewing room keys from the Main Circulation Desk. By combining the two reserve desks we can make better use of library staff while keeping course reserve materials available whenever the library is open. The current Media Service Desk will stay in place for music reserves and as a check-out point for the media circulating collection.

#### **Digital Initiatives**

An important new Library initiative is the Trinity Digital Repository. Since February, our Digital Projects Librarian has been actively soliciting material for the repository, including faculty publications, student projects and papers, and material from the Trinity Archives. A host of material of interest to the Trinity community has recently been made available. Please visit our new Digital Repository at http://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/ and be surprised how much is in there!

Finally, the Trinity College Library recently subscribed to a Web-based streaming video collection from the Film Media Group. It offers online versions of over 7,000 educational films from organizations such as Films for the Humanities, the History Channel, the BBC and major news channels like NBC, ABC, or PBS. The films are available complete or for focused use in short clips. Video selections can be embedded in Moodle pages for easy student viewing. The service is currently accessible from the advanced TOR (Trinity Online Resources) section of the Library homepage.

You can see from these and the other activities described in this newsletter that the Library continuously examines its services and strives to enhance them with new approaches and technologies useful for teaching and learning at Trinity College.

### **Staffing News:**

• C. Jeremy Barney comes to us from the University of Michigan where he worked in the Print Cataloging Section of the Hatcher Graduate Library. Jeremy has a background in cataloging and archives and records management and will take over supervision of our cataloging department. He will focus on both staff training and increasing the visibility of our extensive holdings, in particular as we build out our discovery systems and online collections.

• Scott Burright comes to us from the University of Wyoming and has a background in information technology, web development, reference services, and collection development in the social sciences. He takes over oversight of the implementation, maintenance, and development all of library software, systems, and equipment, and is specifically charged with making sure our technological infrastructure successfully supports the needs of our students, faculty, and staff.



### Trinity College Digital Repository by Amy Harrell, Digital Projects Librarian

Since the Library's initial announcement in Spring 2011, the Repository has been populated with a variety of materials as a means to explore the range of formats it may accommodate and to demonstrate its potential capacity to members of the campus. The following examples are just a few items in this charter content: senior theses and projects from the class of 2011 and earlier; faculty authored papers, taken largely from Open Access journals; photos from the Center for Urban and Global Studies study-away photo contest; this year's issue of the Trinity Papers; the last 2 years' worth of the First Year Papers; and materials from the Watkinson Library and Archives. All materials in the Repository are full-text searchable, and easily found through Google unless restricted to on-campus access only.

The Digital Repository will evolve as it stretches to accommodate the materials and authors who contribute to it. Feedback regarding content and its organization, policies, workflows, or other matters, from the Trinity community is most welcome as we determine how best to organize the material and raise the visibility of the creativity and scholarship on campus.

The Repository is currently accessed from the main Library Web site or by visiting http://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu, edu. Please contact Amy Harrell, amy.harrell@trincoll.edu, with questions or comments.

### A New Look for WorldCat Local

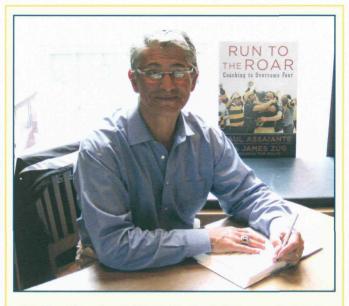
by Tom Zaharevich, Head Librarian for Technical and Access Services

WorldCat, a well-known bibliographic database used by many of Trinity's researchers, has a new search interface and several local enhancements. The search interface has been redesigned and a massive addition in content is taking effect with the incorporation of millions of article citations into the database. Initially these citations are being drawn from a few standard indexing databases such as ArticleFirst, MEDLINE, ERIC, and British Library Inside Serials, but we will be adding even more over time.

The new WorldCat interface now allows us to incorporate lots of local information previously only discoverable in the Library's catalog such as: Trinity location and call number information; CTW holdings and direct links to CTW request forms: and E-journal links to full text content. While this new database will not replace the Library's catalog, our hope is that the new features will help our researchers by having its information displayed in both places.

The new interface may look familiar as it has been developed with and is being used at several major university libraries. We are happy to roll it out here as well. To try it out, go to http://trincoll.worldcat.org.

## NEWS from the Libraries at Trinity College



On Tuesday, April 12, 2011, the Library welcomed Trinity Men's Squash Coach, Paul Assaiante, for an author talk and book signing for his book, Run to the Roar: Coaching to Overcome Fear. Coach Assaiante regaled our crowd with tales from his beginnings as a coach at West Point to the obstacles in life - and sports - that led him to his post and years of success at Trinity.

## **Trinity Hosts Oberlin Library Directors**

The Trinity College Library served as the 2011 host for the annual meeting of Library Directors for the seventeen libraries in the northeast that are a part of the Oberlin Group of Libraries, a consortium of eighty libraries nationwide from selective liberal arts colleges.

These meetings are an opportunity for the Directors to come together to discuss the various changes in libraries in general, and the advances as well as the challenges faced in the libraries at their respective institutions. Utmost in everyone's minds were the best practices around the digital initiatives many institutions are now undertaking to make campus scholarly work more widely available. At Trinity the digital initiatives also include the digitization of images in the Watkinson Library's special collections, which dovetailed nicely with Head Librarian Rick Ring's presentation on how to market special collections to undergraduates.

The meeting concluded with a group discussion about the impact of reduced budgets on materials, consortial collaboration updates, respective strategic planning projects, and the proliferation of new video streaming options and copyright issues therein – all of which the Directors see as the main focus for the year ahead.

# The FRED Comes to the Watkinson Library

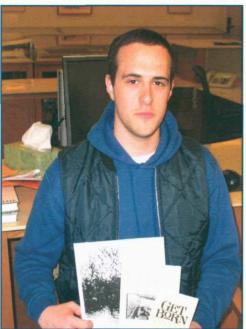
The Fred Pfeil Community Project is a student-run campus living alternative named after beloved Professor of English, Fred Pfeil, who died of cancer in December 2005. The purpose of The Fred is to create a comfortable and vibrant space for all students to unite social, cultural, and intellectual interests, thereby enriching campus life.

On April 20, 2010, we invited these students, none of whom had ever met Fred Pfeil, to come to the Watkinson Library and hear his colleagues and friends share memories and read a few poems, to give the students a sense of the active, respected, and accomplished



Fred students (past, present, future) gather around Dr. Ellison Findly, Fred Pfeil's widow and Trinity Professor of Religion and International Studies.

man Fred was. All told, about 60 people attended this gathering, and our Watkinson staff plans to work with students from the Fred in the future to create an annual event centering on social justice and/or activism.

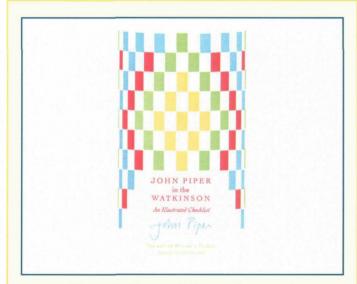


Luc Rioual '11 poses with a few examples from his winning collection.

# Webster Book Prize Awarded to E-Zine Creator and Collector

Luc Rioual, Class of 2011, won the 2011 Webster Book Prize for his collection of e-zines, electronic magazines modeled after traditional print magazines. For the uniqueness of his materials and his true commitment to the acquisition and creation of his finds, Luc's entry emerged as the one most depicting the true heart of a collector.

The Webster prize was endowed by Jerome P. Webster (Class of 1910) in the late 1950s, and is one of the oldest collegiate book collecting prizes in the country. Trinity's winner can receive up to \$500 and is automatically eligible to enter the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest in which contestants can win up to \$2,500 and the sponsoring library up to \$1,000! Students interested in entering the 2012 contest can find contest rules and other information by going to http://library.trincoll. edu/Webster/ or e-mailing Richard Ring (richard.ring@trincoll. edu).



The Watkinson Library is proud to announce its most recent publication, John Piper in the Watkinson: An Illustrated Checklist, produced to celebrate the recent gift of a collection of books and ephemera related to the British artist, John Piper (1903–1992). The catalogue contains an essay by the donor (William J. McGill, Trinity Class of 1957) on his interest in Piper for over three decades, and an annotated list of the entire collection of ca. 200 items. Designed by Arley-Rose Torsone, the text and full-color illustrations were printed by Finlay (Bloomfield, CT). The cover, which features a stylized representation of the immense baptistery window of Coventry Cathedral, which John Piper designed, was printed in fourcolor letterpress by DWRI Letterpress of Providence, RI.

# Trinity Librarians Among Presenters at ACRL National Conference



At the 2011 ACRL National Conference, six librarians from the CTW consortium presented a 3 hour workshop on Collaborative Collection Development and Patron-Driven Acquisitions. The workshop showcased CTW's pilot project for shared e-book purchases and facilitated discussions among participants on planning and implementing such an approach. CTW's experience with it was part of a three year grant for collaborative collection projects funded by the Andrew W. Mellon foundation. In the picture from left to right: Beth Hansen (Connecticut College), Doris Kammradt (Trinity College), Pat Tully and Andrew Klein (both Wesleyan University), Steve Bischof (formerly Wesleyan, now at the Five Colleges, MA), and Lorri Huddy (CTW consortium).

### Space and Furniture for New Functions

by Doris Kammradt, Head Librarian for Collections, Research & Instruction

During the summer, three spaces on Level A of the Library have been reconfigured to better serve our new programs and service directions. All changes have been accomplished by modifying existing furniture and augmenting it at low cost. Thanks are due to the dedicated and thrifty team of Administrative Librarian Jessica Smith and Administrative Assistant Janine Kinel whose help has been invaluable in all stages of this process!

The upgrades to the Phelan Library Learning Center, our primary space for Library instruction, have been guided by three goals: to increase capacity for larger classes, create more options for collaboration, and enhance functionality for teaching. This has been achieved by adding five small round tables along the perimeter of the room, dividing the two large tables in the center into four smaller ones that are easily moveable, and acquiring a second projector along with a reversible whiteboard that double-functions as a projection screen.

At the Level A entrance to the Library, the low section of the former reference desk has been relocated and now serves as the new Library service point. Repurposed with minimal carpentry cost, it perfectly matches the wood paneling of the atrium and the circulation desk. Its new location and re-defined function has already proved useful in the first few weeks of the semester and received many positive comments.

Finally, the remaining high section of the reference desk has been augmented by a small round slate table formerly in the Phelan Library Learning Center. The area is now defined as a research center where librarians meet with students to collaborate on their questions and topics. It will be further developed as we start the new Research Associates Program that will introduce peer mentors into the Library's services.

### Summer Collection Shifts

### by Jeff Liszka, Associate Access Services Librarian

This past summer, two members of the Access Services Unit undertook substantial book shifting projects on Level 2 and Level A in the Library.

Jeff Liszka, Associate Access Services Librarian, shifted books on Level 2 in the Social and Political Sciences, Call Numbers H-L. This shift opened up space to accommodate future growth in these important areas of the Library's Main Collection.

Jason Davis, Library Technician, shifted the Library's Reference Collection on Level A. This book shift gave the Library the ability to reintegrate some Reference material, which had been in storage. It also allowed us to integrate our Documents Reference material into the larger print Reference Collection.

We hope both shifts will make it easier to find material, as well as provide room for future growth in both collection areas.



Art History majors get a hands-on lesson in using WorldCat Local and subject specific databases to find scholarly information on Picasso in our newly enhanced Phelan Library Learning Center.

## Research Education at the Trinity College Library

by Erin Valentino, Research Education Librarian

Over the last couple of years, the Trinity College Library has developed a new Research Education Program that recently has been documented in a series of statements on the Library's homepage: http://library.trincoll.edu/research/.The Research Education Program includes four interconnected components:

• The First-Year Librarian introduces incoming first-year students to library services and collections. Each First-Year, Cities, Guided-Studies, Interdisciplinary-Science and Interarts seminar has a dedicated librarian who provides classroom workshops and individual research consultations.

• Through the classroom research workshop and presentation, librarians engage with courses on all levels, with special emphasis on methods classes and senior as well as graduate thesis seminars.

• Student and faculty research consultations provide focused follow-up or in-depth exploration of a topic with individuals and small groups.

• A pilot project for a Research Associates Program launched this fall will select and educate students to be peer mentors of research. The program will extend the reach of research librarians and provide an experiential learning model in the Library, as well as opportunities for student leadership parallel to peer-tutoring in Trinity's Writing Center, Math Center, and Academic Computing Department.

This new research education program builds on the successes of the Information Literacy Program previously supported with a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The grant funded the integration of the standard information-literacy skills—as defined by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)—into the liberal-arts curriculum. The Mellon grant allowed us to explore and implement a variety of approaches to information literacy instruction and increased the communication between teaching faculty and research librarians. It is on this basis of experimentation and collaboration that we continue to develop the Library's research education program. The creation of this publication is due, in part, to the support the Library receives from the Library Associates, a vital group of alumni, parents, and friends who share their love of learning by supporting the Library. Comments or questions about this publication or the Library Associates may be directed to Jessica Smith, Administrative Librarian, at jessica.smith@trincoll.

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### NEWS from the Libraries at Trinity College

Raether Library and Information Technology Center 300 Summit Street Hartford, CT 06106-3100



Trinity College

## Watkinson Library's New Creative Fellowship Program

Whatever your passion or talent, we invite you to explore it through a Creative Fellowship at the Watkinson Library. Are you an artist? A computer whiz? Do you play or compose music? Can you shoot and edit videos? Do you paint, sculpt, or work in metal or glass? Weave baskets? Are you a writer, or a poet? Can you design a website, or maintain a blog? Are you a photographer? An actor? A calligrapher? An engineer? An entrepreneur? An athlete?

The Watkinson is pleased to announce a pilot program to award four (4) creative fellowships in the Spring of 2012. Each Fellowship comes with a stipend of \$1,500, and requires a weekly journal and an end product. The vision for this program is to create support for self-directed students to explore the collections in the Watkinson, encounter an item or a group of items that spark inspiration, and engage with that material to produce something new. Deadline for applications is November 1, 2011. For more information and an application, go to www.watkinsonlibrary.org or e-mail richard.ring@trincoll.edu.

### Fall Events Hosted by the Watkinson Library



Wednesday, October 19 4:30 p.m. Joslin Family 1823 Room, Raether Library and Information Technology Center

Dr. Scott Gwara from the University

of South Carolina will give an illuminated lecture entitled "Medieval Manuscripts at America's Liberal Arts Colleges," accompanied by a small exhibition of examples from our collection. Dr. Gwara's specialties include Old and Middle English, Arthurian literature, Shakespeare, and medieval Latin.

Thursday, November 3 5:00 p.m. Joslin Family 1823 Room, Raether Library and Information Technology Center

Dr. Christoph Irmscher from Indiana University will give a lecture on John James Audubon's Birds of America, which will mark the official opening of the new permanent exhibit of our copy (see front cover). Dr. Irmscher edited the Library of America edition of Audubon's works, and writes on nineteenth-century American and Canadian literature, early American nature writing, and eco-criticism.